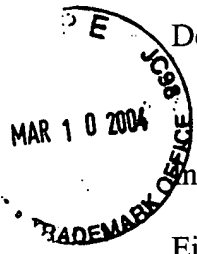


#18262A
P.B. 3/19/04



Docket No.: 44084-326

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of

: Customer Number: 20277

Eiichi YOSHIDA, et al.

: Confirmation Number:

Serial No.: 09/161,277

: Group Art Unit: 2624

Filed: September 28, 1998

: Examiner: Tran, D.

For: IMAGE FORMING APPARATUS AND TERMINAL DEVICE CONNECTED TO NETWORK

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Mail Stop IDS
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RECEIVED
2004 MAR 18 PM 1:51
MAR 15 2004
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2600

Technology Center 2600

Dear Sir:

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed more than three months after the U.S. filing date and after the mailing date of a Final Rejection or Notice of Allowance, but before payment of the Issue Fee.

**REQUEST TO CONSIDER REFERENCES AFTER CLOSE OF PROSECUTION AND
BEFORE PAYMENT OF ISSUE FEE**

The undersigned hereby requests consideration and entry of this Information Disclosure Statement and accompanying references under 37 CFR 1.97(d).

Please charge the processing fee under 1.17(p) of \$180.00 to Deposit Account 500417.

03/12/2004 WABDELRI 00000134 500417 09161277
01 FC:1806 180.00 DA

CERTIFICATION PARAGRAPH

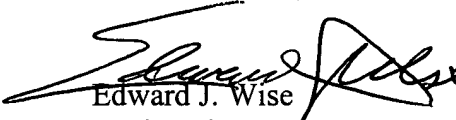
The undersigned certifies that, to the best of his knowledge, each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement as described in 37 CFR 1.97(e)(1).

Each non-English language reference was cited in a corresponding foreign application search report or office action and its relevance discussed therein. A copy of the foreign search report or office action, together with an English language version thereof, is attached for the Examiner's information.

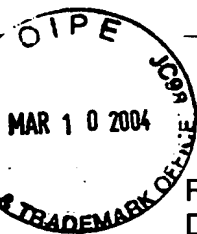
Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 500417 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

MCDERMOTT, WILL & EMERY


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Date: March 10, 2004



NOTICE ON REASON FOR REJECTION

Patent application No: Patent Application No. HEI 9(1997)-265620
Date of draft: Dec 24, 2003
Examiner of patent office: Yousuke Kihou 9649 5V00
Attorney of applicant: Shirou Nakajima
Applied law: Clause 2, Article 29

This application is to be rejected for the following reason. If you have an opinion against this, please submit an argument within 60 days from the mailing date of this notice.

REASON

The inventions relating to the following claims of this application cannot be patented under the Patent Law Clause 2, Article 29, because these inventions would have been easily invented by a person having ordinary skill in the art to which the inventions belong before the filing of the application, based on the inventions described in the following printed publications distributed in Japan and elsewhere before the filing of the application.

NOTE (as to cited references and the like, refer to the list of the cited references and the like)

[As to claims 1 to 6]

- References and the like : 1 and 2
- Remarks : Reference 1 discloses a device which inquires of a printing requesting device whether enable or discard data stored in storage means, when restarting a printer server. Reference 2 discloses a device which requires a request station to retransmit a file when a relay broadcast is resumed.

Each of the inventions relating to claims 1 to 6 could easily have been made by a person having ordinary skill in the art, by changing over from composition of inquiring of a printing requesting device to that of requiring retransmission in the device disclosed in reference 1.

(It is to be noted that a reason why an amendment is legal should be stated in an opinion brief with specifying supporting descriptions in a specification and drawings at the time of filing of the patent application if filing the amendment with the opinion brief.)

The reason for rejection will be noticed if it is newly found.

Docked number: P-970199

Mailing number: 462773

Date of mailing: January 6, 2004

2/2

List of the references and the like

1. Japanese laid-open patent application No. HEI 09-101869
 2. Japanese laid-open patent application No. SHOU62-289046
-

Record of the result of prior art search

Field of search IPC 7th edition
 H04N1/00 - 1/00, 108

This record of the result of prior art search never constitutes the reason for rejection.

If you have an unclear point concerning the content of the notice on reason for rejection or if you request an interview, please contact to the following:

Patent Examination Division 4, Image processing(Still image)
Examiner Kihou Yousuke
Tel: 03-3581-1101 (Extension Number 3571)
Fax: 03-3581-0715